



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: **T-5**

May 23, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**COUNTY LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS  
AND COUNTY LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1  
ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS - FISCAL YEAR 2002-03  
ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS  
3 VOTES**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve and file the enclosed Engineer's Report regarding the proposed annual levying of assessments in County Lighting District LLA-1 for street lighting purposes for Fiscal Year 2002-03.
2. Adopt the enclosed Resolution of Intention declaring your Board's intent to levy and collect assessments in County Lighting District LLA-1 for Fiscal Year 2002-03.
3. Set a date for a public hearing on the proposed continuation of Fiscal Year 2001-02 levying of annual assessments in County Lighting District LLA-1 for the Fiscal Year 2002-03.
4. Instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to give notice of the public hearing by causing the Resolution of Intention to be published once in both English and Spanish language newspapers at least ten days prior to the date of hearing scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on June 25, 2002.

**AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. If needed, authorize changes in any of the matters provided in the Engineer's Report, including changes in the improvements, any zones within the assessment Lighting Districts, and the diagram which shows the Lighting Districts' boundaries or the proposed assessment as described in the Engineer's Report.
2. Determine to levy assessments in any amount not to exceed the recommended amounts.
3. Adopt a Resolution Confirming the Diagram and Assessment, either as originally proposed or as changed by your Board. The adoption of the enclosed Resolution Ordering the Levying of Assessments shall constitute the levy of annual assessments in County Lighting District LLA-1 for the Fiscal Year 2002-03.
4. Find the assessment will meet financial reserve needs and requirements; purchase supplies, equipment, or materials; provide funds for capital improvement projects; and meet operating expenses, including the installation and maintenance of additional lights necessary to maintain adequate lighting levels within the Lighting Districts, making it just and equitable, and in the public interest, that these expenses be paid for by the Lighting Districts as a whole for Fiscal Year 2002-03.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

This recommended action is for your Board to establish the Fiscal Year 2002-03 street lighting assessment rates in the County Lighting Assessment Zones in the unincorporated areas and 14 cities shown in Appendix H of the enclosed Engineer's Report which the County administers street lights and where no assessment increase is proposed. A separate Board letter is being processed currently for your Board's consideration for the Palmdale Zone in County Lighting District LLA-1.

County Lighting District LLA-1 was formed on July 24, 1979, to provide supplemental funding for the continued operation of the street lighting systems in the existing County-administered Lighting Districts. It was formed to have essentially the same boundaries as those County-administered Street Lighting Districts listed in Appendix A of the Engineer's Report. Each subsequent year, your Board has renewed annual street lighting assessments,

and similar action is needed now to provide sufficient continued assessment revenues to keep street lights in all County-administered Lighting Districts fully operational during Fiscal Year 2002-03 for the health and safety of the occupants of the abutting properties.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility as the continuance of the annual street lighting assessments will provide the funding necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of existing and new street lighting facilities within County Lighting District LLA-1. It also satisfies the Goal of Service Excellence since maintaining street lighting services provides for the convenience and safety of the motoring public, as well as for the safety and security of people and property, which improves the quality of life in the unincorporated areas and 14 cities with County-administered Street Lighting Districts.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

It is essential your Board renew the annual street lighting assessments, since the existing assessments expire annually and will lapse unless a positive action is taken by your Board to continue funding for the operation of the street lights in the County-administered Lighting Districts.

Financing of the County-administered Street Lighting Districts will be provided from the small portion of property taxes designated for street lighting augmented by the revenues from the proposed assessments for Fiscal Year 2002-03.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 provides for the assessment of street lighting costs against the benefitted properties within County Lighting District LLA-1 by any formula or method which fairly distributes the costs among all assessable lots or parcels in proportion to the estimated benefits to be received by each from the improvements. A method of distributing the street lighting costs on the basis of land use was approved by your Board on May 22, 1979, and the same method is used to compute the Fiscal Year 2002-03 assessments.

The Streets and Highways Code provides that your Board may approve the Engineer's Report, as filed, or modify the Engineer's Report and approve it as modified.

On April 30, 2002, your Board adopted a Resolution Initiating Proceedings for the levying of annual assessments in County Lighting District LLA-1, pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15, Streets and Highways Code, State of California. In addition, Public Works was ordered to prepare and file an Engineer's Report in accordance with Article 4 (commencing with Section 22565 of Chapter 1, Part 2, Division 15) of the Streets and Highways Code. The enclosed Engineer's Report was prepared in response to that directive.

The Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 sets forth procedures which must be followed for any fiscal year during which an assessment is to be levied. The Landscaping and Lighting Act requires the legislative body adopt a Resolution of Intention declaring your Board's intent to levy and collect assessments in County Lighting District LLA-1 for Fiscal Year 2002-03 and to approve and file the annual Engineer's Report.

The Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 requires a public hearing be held at a regular Board meeting. Your Board may delay its determination regarding the levy of assessments until a later date or continue the public hearing to receive further testimony and make your determination regarding the assessment at the close of the public hearing continuance. However, according to Section 22629 of the Streets and Highways Code, the hearing may not be continued beyond August 10, 2001, without the prior consent of the Auditor-Controller.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Section 21080 (b) (8) of the Public Resources Code and Class 1-(X)27 of the Environmental Guidelines approved by your Board.

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

None.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
May 23, 2002  
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**CONCLUSION**

Please forward one approved copy of this letter to the County Assessor (Ownership Services Section), Auditor-Controller (Tax Section), and Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES  
Director of Public Works

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
COUNTY LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS  
AND  
COUNTY LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1  
ENGINEER'S REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2002-03**

**PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE  
LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT OF 1972**

**Prepared by**

**Public Works**

**for the**

**County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
COUNTY LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS  
AND COUNTY LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1  
ENGINEER'S REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2002-03**

On April 30, 2002, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles adopted a Resolution Initiating Proceedings for the levying of annual assessments in County Lighting District LLA-1 for street lighting purposes pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15, Streets and Highways Code, State of California, in order to provide supplemental funds for the continued operation of existing County-administered Lighting Districts. Public Works was also ordered to prepare and file an Engineer's Report in accordance with Article 4 (commencing with Section 22565 of Chapter 1, Part 2, Division 15) of the Streets and Highways Code. This Report is prepared in response to the above directive to address all Zones within County Lighting District LLA-1, with the exception of the Palmdale Zone. A separate Engineer's Report previously filed with your Board addresses the Palmdale Zone.

The County Lighting Maintenance Districts are established Lighting Districts. The street lights within these areas were fully funded from ad valorem property taxes prior to the passing of State Constitutional Amendment XIII-A which limited the maximum amount of ad valorem tax increases on real property. The ad valorem taxes received under the guidelines established by the State Legislature subsequent to the passing of this amendment are not sufficient to pay the cost of street lighting services within the Lighting Districts. County Lighting District LLA-1 was formed on July 24, 1979, to provide supplemental funding for the existing County-administered Lighting Districts. It was formed to have essentially the same boundaries as these existing County-administered Lighting Districts listed in Appendix A. County Lighting District LLA-1 has a separate Zone for each city encompassing only the area within the city currently within an existing County-administered Lighting District. The designation for each Zone is the name of the city within which it lies.

Street Lighting District maps showing a diagram of each existing Lighting District, indicating the general nature, location, extent of improvement, and the exterior boundaries of the Lighting Districts, are on file with the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration and are made a part of this Report by reference. Maps of subdivisions annexed to County Lighting District LLA-1 pursuant to

Section 22608.2 of the Streets and Highways Code subsequent to the formation of the Lighting District on July 24, 1979, are on file in the office of the County Assessor in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. The improvements to be installed by the developers of these subdivisions are shown, together with their locations, on maps on file at Public Works.

Appendix B lists those new subdivisions and single-lot developments processed for annexation to the Lighting Districts or located within the existing boundaries of the Lighting Districts, and whose operational costs were transferred from a sub-divider's account to a Lighting District account during Fiscal Year 2001-02. The number and size of street lights installed and the estimated annual operating costs for each new subdivision and single-lot development together with the Zone in which the development is located is also listed in Appendix B.

Information regarding additional street lights installed in Fiscal Year 2001-02 within the Lighting Districts in response to specific requests, and in compliance with procedures set forth in the Streets and Highways Code, is shown in Appendix C.

Annexations of territories and/or formation of improvement zones by petition of the property owners together with the number and sizes of street lights and the amount of the loans made to each Zone by the Board of Supervisors are shown in Appendix D. Maps of the above annexations and improvement zones are on file at Public Works.

In compliance with procedures set forth in the Streets and Highways Code, the number, lamp type and size, and estimated energy costs of the highway safety lights located within the unincorporated County area and the boundaries of the existing Lighting Districts, and transferred to County Lighting Maintenance District 1687 and County Lighting District LLA-1, Unincorporated Zone, are shown in Appendix E. The consolidation of the highway safety lights into the Lighting Districts reduces the burden and associated costs of administering these street lights under separate programs and will assure a more stable funding base for the future operation and maintenance of these highway safety lights.

All parcels of real property with a recommended street lighting assessment greater than zero, as listed in the 2001-02 Tax Rate Area Report or listed by Assessor's Parcel Number as a result of subdivision and petition annexations, are identified in Appendix F and are more particularly described in maps prepared in accordance with Section 327 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, which are on file in the office of the County Assessor in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration and are made a part of this Report by reference.



The Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 provides for assessment of street lighting costs upon the benefitted properties within County Lighting District LLA-1. The act states, "The net amount to be assessed upon the lands within an assessment Lighting District may be apportioned by any formula or method which fairly distributes the net amount among all assessable lots or parcels in proportion to the estimated benefits to be received by each such lot or parcel from the improvements" (Section 22573 of the Streets and Highways Code). A method of distributing the street lighting costs on the basis of land use and land use data compiled by the County Assessor was approved by the Board of Supervisors on May 22, 1979, and amended by the Board on July 22, 1997, to distribute costs among governmental-owned or leased parcels in accordance with the provisions of Article XIID (Proposition 218) of the California Constitution. The July 22, 1997, amendment currently applies to governmental owned or leased parcels within the Calabasas and Lomita Zones, Zones where benefitted property owners have approved assessment increases pursuant to the provisions of Proposition 218. The report is on file in the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors.

The estimated costs of operating County Lighting District LLA-1 during Fiscal Year 2002-03 and the city Zones therein, and the proposed assessment per unit, are shown in Appendix H. An evaluation of these estimated costs has been made and all such estimated costs appear to be reasonable and appropriate. If the proposed assessments are not approved, it will be necessary to reduce street lighting to stay within the operating revenues.

Certain County-administered Lighting Districts have requested street lighting upgrade and capital improvement projects be implemented within their Lighting Districts during Fiscal Year 2002-03. Funds collected pursuant to the Improvement Act of 1911 and Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 may be used for certain street light upgrades and capital improvements. Revenues designated for potential street light upgrades and capital improvement projects for County-administered Lighting Districts are included in Appendix G.

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Attach.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ORDER  
THE LEVYING OF ASSESSMENTS IN  
COUNTY LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT AND  
COUNTY LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002-03  
PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF  
LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT OF 1972  
TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF  
EXISTING STREET LIGHTS**

WHEREAS, on July 24, 1979, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles approved the formation of County Lighting District LLA-1 to provide supplemental funds for the operation of street lights in County-administered Lighting Districts serving unincorporated territory and the Cities of Agoura Hills, Bell Gardens, Calabasas, Carson, Diamond Bar, La Canada Flintridge, La Mirada, La Puente, Lawndale, Lomita, Malibu, Paramount, Rolling Hills Estates, and Walnut; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2002, the Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution Initiating Proceedings for the Levying of Assessments for Street Lighting in County Lighting District LLA-1 for Fiscal Year 2002-2003 as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has approved and filed the Engineer's Report, showing estimated operating costs and recommended assessments as required by law. A separate and previously filed Engineer's Report addresses the Palmdale Zone of County Lighting District LLA-1.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California:

SECTION 1. The public interest and convenience require, that it is the intention of said Board of Supervisors to order, the expense necessary for the operation, maintenance, repairs, replacement, electric current, care, supervision, and all other items necessary for proper operation and maintenance of County Lighting District LLA-1 shall be assessed upon each lot or parcel of land lying within the Lighting District in proportion to the estimated benefits received from the existing street lighting improvements, and which should be assessed to pay the expense of the operation and maintenance of said improvements. The Engineer's Report, on file with the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors, describes the boundaries of the Lighting Districts and the Zones therein, the locations and improvements in the Lighting Districts, and proposed assessments on each lot or parcel of land included therein.

SECTION 2. The proposed assessments in all of the aforementioned Zones are proposed to remain the same. Property owners are referred to their last property tax bill for their individual existing annual street lighting assessment amount. A table showing the designated usage units on the basis of benefits received for each type of property use can also be obtained by writing to or calling the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (see Sections 8 and 9 for address and phone number).

SECTION 3. The amounts to be assessed for the expense of such operation and maintenance of the work or improvements above-described shall be levied and collected in the same manner and by the same officers as taxes expended for operation, maintenance, and service of the Lighting Districts, all as described in the Engineer's Report and Section 1 of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. The proceedings for the levying of assessments shall be taken under and in accordance with an act of the Legislature of the State of California, known and designated as the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 (Division 15, Part 2, of the Streets and Highways Code).

SECTION 5. On \_\_\_\_\_, at the hour of \_\_\_ o'clock a.m. of said day, is the day and hour, at the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, Room 381, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street (corner of Temple Street at Grand Avenue), Los Angeles, California 90012, the place fixed by the said Board of Supervisors when and where any and all interested persons may hear and be heard regarding proposed street lighting assessments in all street lighting zones in County Lighting District LLA-1.

SECTION 6. The Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors shall give Notice of Public Hearing for all of the aforementioned Zones of County Lighting District LLA-1, in the form and manner specified in Sections 22552 and 22553 of the Streets and Highways Code to be published in the \_\_\_\_\_ newspaper(s), published and circulated in the County of Los Angeles, which is hereby designated for this purpose, not less than ten days prior to the date of said hearing, as stated above in this Resolution.

SECTION 7. The Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors shall cause notice of said hearing to be posted in the form and manner specified by Section 22554 of the Streets and Highways Code.

SECTION 8. Written public comments regarding the proposed assessments may be submitted for consideration at said hearing. They should be addressed as follows and contain the names, addresses, and parcel number of the property owners, as shown on their last property tax bill:

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Public Works  
Traffic and Lighting Division  
Street Lighting Section  
P.O. Box 1460  
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

SECTION 9. Additional information regarding the proposed assessments may be obtained by calling the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Traffic and Lighting Division, Street Lighting Section, at (626) 300-4891.

The foregoing Resolution was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS  
Executive Officer of the  
Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
RESOLUTION ORDERING THE LEVYING OF ASSESSMENTS  
IN COUNTY LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002-03**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors on \_\_\_\_\_ adopted a Resolution of Intention to Order the Levying of Assessments in those areas of County Lighting District LLA-1 which include County-administered Lighting Districts serving unincorporated territory and the Cities of Agoura Hills, Bell Gardens, Calabasas, Carson, Diamond Bar, La Canada Flintridge, La Mirada, La Puente, Lawndale, Lomita, Malibu, Paramount, Rolling Hills Estates, and Walnut for the purpose of providing supplemental funds for the operation of street lights in County-administered Lighting Districts pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works has prepared and filed an Engineer's Report with the Board of Supervisors as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Board did proceed to give notice in the manner required by law of the time and place for a public hearing on the levy of the proposed assessments; and

WHEREAS, said Board has heard all testimony and evidence and is desirous of proceeding with levying of assessments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles:

SECTION 1. The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles hereby finds the public safety and convenience require the continued operation and maintenance of the street lighting improvements in County Lighting District LLA-1.

SECTION 2. It is just and equitable, and in the public interest the expenses for the installation and maintenance of additional lights within the Lighting Districts be paid by the Lighting Districts as a whole for Fiscal Year 2002-03.

SECTION 3. The Lighting Districts diagrams and assessments as set forth in said report, or as modified, are hereby approved, confirmed, and adopted by this Board.

SECTION 4. The adoption of this Resolution constitutes the continuance of the previous Fiscal Year (2001-02) levy of assessments for all of the aforementioned Zones in County Lighting District LLA-1 for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2002, and ending June 30, 2003.

SECTION 5. The amount to be assessed for the expenses of the operation, maintenance, and service, as described in said Engineer's Report and Resolution, shall be levied and collected in the same manner and by the same officers as taxes for County purposes are levied and collected and shall be disbursed and expended for operation, maintenance, and service of the said Lighting Districts, all as described in the Engineer's Report and in Section 1 of the Resolution of Intention.

SECTION 6. The Clerk of the Board is hereby ordered and directed to file a certified copy of the Lighting Districts diagrams and assessments together with a certified copy of this Resolution upon its adoption with the County Assessor and Auditor-Controller.

The foregoing Resolution was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS  
Executive Officer of the  
Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy